



PhxMesa **Gateway** Airport

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Gateway Airport Expands Parking for Holiday Traffic

Remote Lot Adding Additional 1,550 spaces

Mesa, Ariz. – The recent expansion of Allegiant Air service at Gateway Airport from 15 cities to 20 has Airport staff preparing for record numbers of travelers.

In preparation, Gateway staff has built a 1,550 space overflow parking lot. The lot, located on South Taxiway Circle near the air traffic control tower will have a shuttle service available for the four-minute ride to the Charles L. Williams Terminal. Parking rates for the holiday season will remain unchanged with the first half-hour FREE and each additional half-hour \$1, maximum \$5 a day.

In addition to the overflow parking lot, Gateway Airport is also providing a “Cell Phone Lot” located near the passenger terminal where visitors can wait in their vehicles until their guest’s aircraft arrives.

“Gateway is committed to keeping the terminal experience ‘just plane easy’ for our customers,” said Lynn Kusy, executive director for Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport. “We’ve constructed an overflow lot that is relatively close to the terminal and we are remaining committed to keeping daily parking rates low.”

About the Overflow Parking Lot and Cell Phone Lot

“When we set out to build the overflow and cell phone lots, we strived to be environmentally conscious of the materials we selected,” said Art Sanders, Town of Queen Creek Mayor and Gateway Airport Chairman. “Not only are we recycling many of the materials used but the financial benefits of using recycled materials are significant.”

- The remote parking lot is over 12 acres in size and designed to hold over 1500 vehicles. The Cell Phone Lot is just over two acres in size and will hold over 200 vehicles.
- Over 4500 tons of recycled asphalt pavement (“millings”) were used as base for the two lots:
 - ✓ Staff transported 1300 tons of millings from an old helicopter training area on the other side of the airport (75 truck loads)
 - ✓ 3000 tons of millings were brought in from local city street improvement projects (170 truck loads)



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- ✓ Once the remote lot is no longer needed, these millings can be ground up and reused as a base for future construction projects.
- Staff is recycling over 2400 linear feet of fence fabric that we had in storage for several years. Providing our own fence fabric is saving the airport over \$10,000 in materials.
- 190 boulders were delivered from a rock pit that will soon be shutting down in Pinal County. These boulders, spaced at 5' apart, serve as a decorative barrier around the perimeter of the parking lot to prevent vehicles from maliciously entering the Aircraft Operating Areas. Using boulders rather than concrete jersey barricades to cover the same lineal feet distance saves the Airport over \$25,000. Once the remote parking lot is no longer needed, the boulders can be reused in landscaping projects or placed as deterrents in other parking lots.



- Lighting up such a large parking area was a creative challenge. Rather than use 4000-watt diesel-powered light towers that consume fuel and emit toxic fumes, staff purchased eight 2000-watt portable metal halide light towers that run off a 120-volt power source. These lights are portable and they can fold down and fit inside the trunk of a car. Staff will install conduit along the top rail of the fence panels and mount electrical boxes at pre-determined locations. Shields that were fabricated in-house will aim lighting downward and minimize glare to the Air Traffic Control Tower staff. To save staff time in turning on/off each light, photocells will be mounted on top of each light tower along with a solar-powered obstruction light. When the parking lot is not in use, these light towers will be stored away and available throughout the year for other lighting needs.

About Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport

The Airport was established in 1994 and is owned and operated by the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport Authority, which consists of the Gila River Indian Community, Gilbert, Mesa, Phoenix, and Queen Creek. Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport offers non-stop passenger service via Allegiant Air with flights to 20 cities nationwide. For more information, visit www.phxmesagateway.org.